



WHO CARES WHAT YOU THINK?

The Shakerite does! Speak your piece in Forum — coming next month!

The Shakerite



Students embrace Lance Armstrong's charity **page 6**

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T-Shirts are gettin' a little bit scandalous

“The shirts may give people a reputation. Sometimes it's one they want, and sometimes it's one that's not good.”

Lesley Ray
sophomore

BY MEGHAN THOMPSON
COPY EDITOR

Danielle Jones is “the reason that Bennifer is over.” She’s also been warned by her mom “about guys like you” and she “can’t wait.”

How do we know all these things about the senior?

Her T-shirts tell the story. Message-bearing tops such as Jones’ are not unusual in the halls of the high school. These days, it seems as though everyone is making a fashion statement. Now more than ever, though, students are letting their clothing do the talking for them: literally.

Message T-shirts are one of the latest trends in high school fashion; some bear bold political or social

statements, others contain light-hearted humor. Screened on the T-shirts are sayings ranging from, “I love it when I’m right,” to “I seem to have misplaced my boyfriend.”

“I don’t think much of it,” Jones said about the message T-shirts, adding that she usually “looks and laughs.”

Texty T-shirts have been around forever, but these cheeky models have gained numbers in the past year. Well-known labels such as Abercrombie and Fitch have popularized the shirts.

Abercrombie’s self-described “humor tees” for women can be purchased on their website within the price range of \$24.50 to \$29.50. Messages have a literal meaning, but of-

ten can be interpreted to relay subliminal messages or sexual innuendos or ethnic slurs. For instance, one shirt, innocently illustrated with the image of a dollhouse, reads, “Let’s play house. I’ll be the single girl living on her own and you can be the young lawyer next door who needs a cup of sugar.”

Abercrombie also has a line of humor tees that deal with alcohol. For instance, “I’ll trade my boyfriend for a beer,” “It’s happy hour somewhere” and “I like my cocktails like my guys: strong and sweet.” Clearly, with a core of underage consumers snapping up the shirts, these pro-alcohol messages don’t always fit in at school.

SEE SHIRTS PAGE 6



Dan Snider • THE SHAKERITE

T-SHIRTS BEARING INTRIGUING messages about boys are popular among female students this year.

GO, FIGHT

• Sedmak coaxes football team to lift their voices after every win



David O’Connell • THE SHAKERITE

VARSITY FOOTBALL PLAYERS sing the Alma Mater in celebration of their Sept. 23 defeat of Warrensville Heights. Head Coach David Sedmak initiated the practice this year in an effort to build school spirit.

Sing?

BY MEAGAN STEINER
SPORTS EDITOR

If you want to play like a champion, sing like one.

In the manner of The Ohio State University football team, Head Football Coach David Sedmak now mandates that football players sing Shaker’s alma mater after every win. There’s nothing like letting your voice ring loudly to celebrate a well-earned victory, especially when it’s ringing in praise of Shaker’s memory dear.

Sedmak offered the team the choice of memorizing the song and singing it with gusto or enduring an extra day of conditioning.

“At first they probably thought I was a little crazy,” Sedmak said. “Surprisingly, I think [the other football coaches] thought it was a good idea and they tend to tease me about things like that.”

The team’s 10-minute rehearsals, held during preseason practices and led by teammates who are choir members, produced a satisfactory performance for the coaches and an exemption from a day of running.

Though the team sings along with the marching band after home games, Sedmak said they would sing after every win, with or without the band, as they did after a storm delayed the Sept. 4 Brunswick game and sent the band and fans in search of shelter.

Sedmak said he initiated the practice as a way to build school spirit. He added that he likes collaborating with the band.

SEE SINGING PAGE 8

Rivals fight, 4 arrested

BY EMILY GRANNIS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The latest episode of violence among Shaker and Cleveland Heights students resulted in felony arrests, a head injury and use of semi-automatic weapon by an unknown assailant.

Twenty Shaker football players attended the Cleveland Heights vs. Maple Heights football game at Cleveland Heights High School Sept. 17. The Shaker players said they hoped to develop strategies for their own Oct. 30 game against Cleveland Heights. Andy Fetchick, Heights athletic director, said the Shaker students came and left peacefully, though their red and white sweat suits were conspicuous.

“I saw them arrive,” Fetchick said. “I’m not sure why they sat on our sidelines, but that’s neither here nor there, and I’m not sure why they were wearing their Shaker sweats, but that’s neither here nor there. They came and went without incident.”

According to senior defensive back Cordale Waites, the Shaker students left during the third quarter and some of them went home, while seven of them went to the Wendy’s restaurant across the street from Cleveland Heights High School on Cedar Road. Waites said that after they finished eating, a Cleveland

SEE FIGHT PAGE 2

OPINION •
DRAWING THE
LINE ON
VIOLENCE AT
SPORTING
EVENTS
• PAGE 3

Paper or plastic? In cafeteria, polymers replace pulp plates

BY ADAM WEINSTEIN
NEWS EDITOR

The switch from paper to plastic foam in the cafeteria has environmentally conscious folks concerned.

Gone are paper bowls and plates, as well as the reusable plastic trays that carried them. Instead, cafeteria patrons receive their grub on tan trays made of recyclable but non-biodegradable plastic foam.

Cafeteria employee Renee Mezzacapa said the change occurred to save money. However, the switch has not gone unnoticed.

“It’s a concern for the Environmental Club and it’s a concern of mine,” Environmental Club president Sydney Pickett said.

According to Robert Sylak, environmental science teacher and faculty adviser to Environmental Club, plastic foam is hazardous “because it’s a polymer, a long chain of carbon, which makes it indigestible, or non-biodegradable.” He added that paper plates and bowls and reusable trays would be preferable.



Dan Snider • THE SHAKERITE

PLASTIC FOAM TRAYS have replaced paper plates and bowls in the cafeteria this year, much to the chagrin of environmentally conscious people.

Celebrities give their two cents on politics

BY LIZ KANTOR
ARTS EDITOR

“Vote or Die!”

For P. Diddy, Nov. 2 will be the culmination of a long campaign.

P. Diddy is one of the most determined celebrities supporting the Rock the Vote campaign. He worked with MTV at the Democratic National Convention, and has been seen wearing a “Vote or

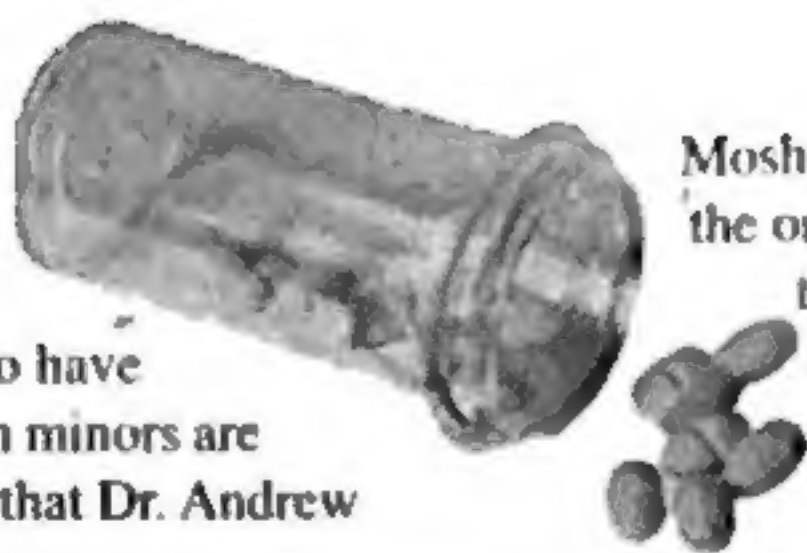
Die!” T-shirt on multiple occasions. However, P. Diddy is endorsing neither presidential candidate John Kerry nor President George W. Bush. He just wants young adults to vote. He wants people to know that every vote counts.

On the Rock the Vote website alone, more than 300 celebrities endorse the

SEE CELEBS PAGE 7

Drug raises suicide fears

A Food and Drug Administration epidemiologist has concluded that the anti-depressant Paxil can cause children to have suicidal thoughts. An estimated 2.1 million minors are on the drug. The FDA, however, believes that Dr. Andrew



Mosholder's study was faulty. According to the organization's website, it did decide to add the possibility of suicidal behavior to the list of side effects on warning labels on every anti-depressant and to include an information sheet with prescriptions.

Ten parking spaces nixed; six replaced

By LAUREN WEISS
NEWS EDITOR

Senior Allison Hall was annoyed when she found that the white lines defining six parking spots near the large auditorium entrance had been removed over the summer.

Hall, who parked by the tennis courts last year, said that this year, cars are already nearing South Woodland Road by 7:30 a.m. Now, Hall has to get to school earlier to snag her tennis court spot.

Six new spots, which are farther from the building, were added on the other side of the oval as replacements. In addition, four spots were eliminated near the entrance to the administration building.

"It was kind of annoying because they took away spots," Hall said, adding that the replacement spots are inadequate. "They're still too far away from the school."

The six spots were eliminated to make room for a new drop-off zone for special education students. The white vans that transport these students used to park in front of the

main entrance, crowding an already-congested area.

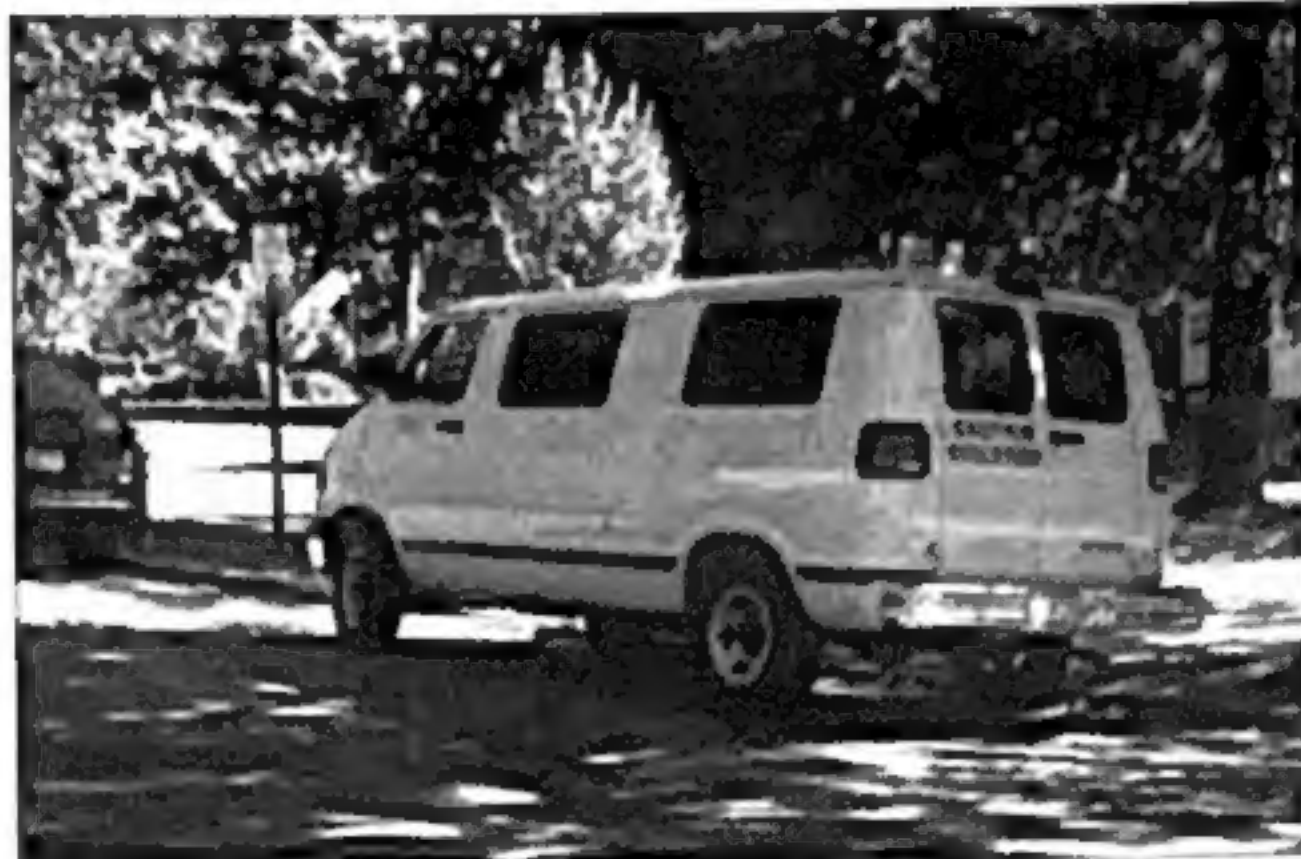
According to David Puffer, the district's business administrator, the four spots near the administration building were eliminated because of a number of accidents and near-accidents in the area.

Senior David Toppston, who parks on the oval in front of the main entrance, also considers the changes to be a major inconvenience. However, he feels the six new spots are a good start.

"More would be nice, but the new spots can't hurt," he said.

Administrators are pleased with the changes.

Director of Special Education Sam



A VAN THAT transports special education students idles in the new load and unload only zone outside the large auditorium. Students were previously able to park there.

Sexton said that preliminary observations reveal that this system is much more effective than the old one.

"It's working very well. It's better from the kids' standpoint — teachers can assist the loading and unloading process, and teachers and security guards direct traffic around the vans," said Sexton, who noted that between 30 and 35 students use the

vans as part of their individualized education plans. "Everyone has commented about how positive a change it has been."

Puffer wrote in an email interview that he has not received any complaints about the changes. He said that he worked with the high school administration and special education department to devise a new drop-off and pick-up system last spring. The proposal was brought to the Shaker Heights' Safety and Public Works Committee, which approved the changes on June 25. Mayor Judy Rawson, who is a member of the committee, said that parking "is a perennial issue," but that changes have to be instigated by district Superintendent Mark Freeman.

"This was a problem when my husband went to the high school," she said. "There are no easy answers."

Puffer added that no other changes are in the works at this time.

"These changes appear to be creating a safer, less congested driveway in front of the high school," he said.

Are the new parking restrictions:

a major inconvenience

17%

a minor inconvenience

15%

not an inconvenience

68%

Scientific poll of 100 students with a margin of error of +/- 10%. Shakerite editors telephoned students.

Allie Jennings
THE SHAKERITE

Scientific poll of 100 students with a margin of error of +/- 10%. Shakerite editors telephoned students.

This year, back to schoolers hit the pool

By CELLA NLANDU
FOCUS EDITOR

It came as a surprise to some students to hear that this year's back to school celebration allowed students to wear nothing more than a swimsuit.

"I thought, 'Wow, somebody is going to drown,'" sophomore Johanna Seckendorff said.

The back to school jam was held because the administration felt that the back to school dance and homecoming were too close together. The two major dances were originally scheduled two weeks apart. The party was Aug. 27.

Members of the Parent Teacher Organization spoke to school and Thornton Park officials and then came up with the idea of having a pool party at the start of the school year. The PTO bought all the food and the city provided use of Thornton Park for free.

Because the event was held the first week of school, student involvement in the planning was minimal. Student Council had little time to promote the event. Also, rainy weather the afternoon of the event decreased

student attendance.

One goal of the party was to attract a new group of people along with the usual school dance attendees. Of the estimated 275 students who attended the party, most were ninth and tenth graders.

"The same crowd went . . . but

less people," said Student

Council President Amy Silver.

Radio Club members Kevin

Sutorius and Andre Smith

played music from their iPods

over speakers while some stu-

dents danced. The club didn't have

enough time to organize a full sound

system.

Many rumors about why the back

to school jam was held at the pool

rather than at the school surfaced

during the first week of school. Some

students believed that the jam was a

test to see if the students deserved a

back to school dance.

"Student Council was originally

told that if there was a good turn out at the back to school jam, a back to school dance would be held, but the PTO member turned out to be an unreliable source," Silver said.

Principal Michael Griffith confirmed this, saying that the chance of having a back to school dance this year had nothing to do with student behavior at the jam.

In addition to security guards and police officers, PTO members and Student Council advisers chaperoned the event.

The jam "was more of a hang-out," Silver said.

Freshman Alex Tuma had fun at the pool party.

"I think it's great, very interesting and lively," he said.

However, there are no plans for another school sponsored pool party in the future. Silver said that there was nothing wrong with the event, but the concept of a pool party was not as appealing as a dance.

"I hope that they learn from this event and plan accordingly with the administration this time around next year," she said.



Brian Gamm • THE SHAKERITE

A STUDENT LEANS into an empty pool at Thornton Park during the back to school jam Aug. 27. The activity replaced the back to school dance this year, but students danced anyway to songs played from juniors Kevin Sutorius' and Andre Smith's iPods. "I think it's great, very interesting and lively," freshman Alex Tuma said.

Post-game fight results in injury, arrests

FROM FIGHT PAGE 1

Heights police officer announced that the restaurant was closing and the students had to leave. He allegedly told them, "I'm going to have you guys stand outside, and don't be afraid to get jumped."

Around 10:30 p.m., Waites said about 30 fans left the game and approached Wendy's. Junior fullback Ahmad Motley, who was standing to the side, was alleg-

edly tackled by one of the Heights students, and though he tried to force them off, he was kicked in the eye and suffered a concussion. The injury prevented him from playing in the next day's football game against St. Ignatius.

According to the Plain Dealer, the conflict resumed 45 minutes after the Heights-Shaker fight. A Cleveland Heights police captain said that someone fired a semi-au-

tomatic weapon, hitting two people in the arm. Neither were Shaker students.

Four Shaker students involved in the Wendy's altercation were arrested for felony aggravated rioting.

Shaker and Cleveland Heights also fought outside the North Gym lobby after a women's basketball game vs. Cleveland Heights on Dec. 10, 2003. That incident required police intervention.



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Shaker Heights

Teachers' Association

SHTA

Professionals Dedicated To
Educating Shaker's Youth

• Spend \$40.2 billion to protect America from terrorists. The money would be used create plans for individual cities, to make protection plans for America's food and water supply, and to increase police en-

If re-elected, President Bush plans to:



forcement during high terrorist alerts. DHS.gov
• Spend a total of \$1 billion to fund programs for children with special needs and underprivileged children at poor schools. An additional \$138 mil-



lion would be spent on reading programs and \$28 million would be spent on increasing the availability of AP programs at disadvantaged high schools. Whitehouse.gov

Represent Shaker: Keep it peaceful

• Action must be taken to calm tempers that flare when rival schools meet

Forget American pride; spirit is all about your school. Unfortunately the notion of demonstrating pride is increasingly manifesting itself among students as a willingness to fight for their alma maters.

How does physical violence better represent your school? Why is it necessary to view other schools as enemies?

Shaker students were not wrong to attend the Heights football game. These events are open to the public, and seating is open as well. However, it seems unwise to flaunt your colors on the sidelines of your rival.

Students clearly cross the line of rivalry when someone gets hurt or property is damaged. It's ridiculous that someone would put his well being on the line to defend his pride. Athletes should be content to defend their

school through participation in their sports, not through parking lot clashes.

School administrators are also partially responsible for the continuing animosity among athletic rivals. If schools were to take a stand and really punish hooligans, it would strongly discourage students -- especially athletes with their season participation on the line -- from engaging in these meaningless fights. The Shaker football players involved in the Sept. 17 conflict played against Warrensville Heights Sept. 23.

Suspending students or kicking them off their teams could curb this ridiculous behavior. By remaining passive, school officials seem to be condoning the violence.

Don't ruin the enjoyment of high school sports; let's all do our part to keep the competition friendly.

Poverty transcends statistics

Like any Cleveland area resident, upon seeing the words "Cleveland No. 1" on the front page of the Plain Dealer a few weeks ago, I grew excited that it was finally Cleveland's day. But rather than uplifting news, the headline sadly continued with "in big-city poverty."

I observed one of two reactions to this news. One, seen among adults, was that of shock about how the city they lived next to was more impoverished than Long Beach or Atlanta. The second, coming from the few students aware of the ranking, was one of apathy.



ADAM WEINSTEIN
NEWS EDITOR

Up the hill in suburbia, especially in Shaker, where residents call the middle class the lower class, it's easy to be ignorant of the realities of Cleveland. If one doubts that Cleveland is severely impoverished, drive down Woodland Avenue by the uniformly ugly Outhwaite projects, or drive down Lorain Avenue on a Saturday night when every two storefronts are vacant and the corners are freckled with drug dealers and prostitutes. Or walk through Hough, where a sprinkling of new homes can't hide the dilapidated houses that lay adjacent to them.

If you're still not convinced, walk down West 25th Street past all the glitzy shops to the enormous, elderly public housing apartments and observe street peddlers selling everything from outdated suits to prescription drugs on the street to eek out a living.

People in those neighborhoods don't need statistics to tell them that Cleveland is impoverished. However in past years, Cleveland was less impoverished, so why is poverty so high now? The answer is in the 10-mile long by 2-mile wide industrial valley. Many industrial jobs were lost or sent overseas, especially in steel mills. Industrial jobs in Cleveland are the bread and butter for many. And for those who think that industrial job cuts won't affect them because they plan on being a doctor, remember that the middle class has never survived with a growing under class.

When I try to sum up the economical state of Cleveland, I think of eating breakfast at the 49er Diner in Slavic Village, two blocks from the steel mills. The one middle-aged waitress, despite her cheerful smile, had been working for the last 15 hours. By the way, breakfast starts at \$1.39, probably the daily expendable income of many clientele.

Midway through my meal, the waitress was visited by her son, who had an amputated arm. I listened to the conversations of the weathered, bearded, industrial workers who make the diner their haunt. A man in his 60s lives such a hand to mouth existence that he came in and asked if he could get breakfast today and pay tomorrow, as his check was late and he had no food or money. These men, and a few women, weren't discussing vacation spots, what their 401K looked like, or a witty article in the "New York Times Magazine." The dominating topic of conversation was whether they had a job and whether it paid enough to eat, keep their old car running and pay the rent. This is Cleveland.

Warning: In Case of Emergency, This Won't Help You

• On the back side of this page is a chart where you're encouraged to write information about friends and family, including their names, dates of birth, social security numbers and important medical information

• The DHS suggests keeping copies of this page at home and in your backpack, ignoring the fact that your clan's vital information is there for the taking when you leave your planner on the table in the cafeteria.

• Part of the chart also asks you to record the places and addresses where your family spends most of their time; it's just like a kidnapper's fantasy.



Who is Tom Ridge?
He may be our next principal

• According to the Department of Homeland Security's website, Tom Ridge became the first Secretary of the DHS in 2003. His job is to create a plan of defense against terrorist attacks. The website states, "In the words of President George W. Bush, he had the strength, experience, personal commitment and authority to accomplish this critical mission."



Summer of 2004

was both action-packed and pretty darn boring. A movie for every fan found the big screen, from the romantic love story "The Notebook" to the comic book blasts "Spiderman 2" and "Catwoman." Sports fans rejoiced when the International Children's Games came to Cleveland for four days, and one Ethiopian athlete caught the world's attention when she decided she wanted to stay. Summer was definitely not the time for chilling at the beach and basking in the rays; the average July temperature in Ohio was 68.9 degrees (2.3 degrees below the norm) and the month was .35 inches rainier than usual. But those with a nose for news found this was a sleepy summer; the all-time "Jeopardy" champion made the front page after winning 48 games and earning more than \$1 million. Regardless of what you saw on vacation,

We know what you missed last summer

Mayors: The Usual Suspects?

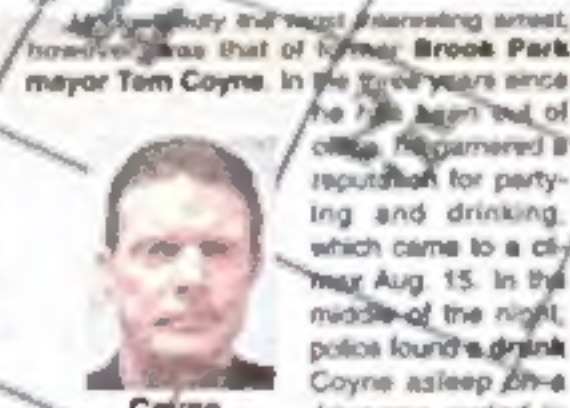


Emmanuel Onunwor, East Cleveland mayor, was one of several Ohio mayors who can stand up to the law over the summer.

Watch out, Judy Ravenna. Summer 2004 was not kind to North-
east Ohio mayors. Two finance problems, two arrests, a resignation and one night spent naked on an asphalt driveway.
East Cleveland Mayor Emmanuel Onunwor started off the season of trouble with a two-year federal investigation ended in his resignation after a federal jury found him guilty of 22 counts of corruption. The investigation, which included wiretapping and agents literally bursting into his office and home to seize financial records, revealed that Onunwor forced contractors into giving him thousands of dollars in bribes. He estimated that he cost the impoverished city upwards of \$2.5 million. Finally, on Sept. 3, two days after his conviction, he submitted a letter of resignation effective immediately.

However, it looks like another mayor may follow in Onunwor's footsteps. On Aug. 23, State Auditor Betty Montgomery ordered a review of Brooklyn Mayor Ken Patton's expense ac-

count. Previous disclosures revealed that he had used tax money for personal affairs, including expensive meals, golf outings, wedding gifts, political donations, and floral arrangements for funerals. Patton said that he had paid back \$330 to cover a golf outing and several meals, but added that he would cooperate and abide by the law.



Brook Park Mayor Tom Coyne. In the first year of his term, he garnered a reputation for partying and drinking, which came to a climax Aug. 15. In the middle of the night, police found a drunk Coyne asleep in a driveway, curled in the fetal position with his urine-soaked pants around his ankles and polo shirt over his head. This was Coyne's third alcohol-related arrest, finally inspiring Coyne to check himself into the Betty Ford clinic for rehab.

War on terror continues throughout the summer

School ended last spring amid ugly evidence that U.S. soldiers abused and humiliated dozens of Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib prison. Soldiers who allegedly participated in the abuse faced consequences over the summer. Polyete Lyndee England's smiling face appeared in many photos of prisoners being sexually and physically mistreated. England's presence in that part of the prison was allegedly unauthorized. She faces 28 charges in military court, among them charges of abuse, sexual misconduct, mistreatment and cruelty. Retaliation for the prisoner abuse ensued, sometimes in the form of beatings and beatings. Nick Berg, a Philadelphia 26-year-old, was captured



and beheaded on videotape in May. Over the summer, several abductions and beatings followed. Two French journalists were taken hostage in Iraq in July. They were held for 11 days. They were released on the condition that they would not reveal the names of the captors. A law banning any public display of religion, including head coverings worn by Muslim clerics. Nevertheless, school began in France with the law in place and the journalists yet to be freed. In Afghanistan, the original target of President Bush's war on terror, registering voters for the country's first democratic elections was the focus.

Hopeful singers, models expose talent, selves

American Idol fans and hopefuls stormed Cleveland Browns Stadium Aug. 4. Cleveland set the record for most fans at an American Idol audition by attracting over 15,000 people. Fans flew all the way from Hawaii for auditions. Even though it was hot as hades, these wannabe stars lined up eager to earn the blue wristbands to certify their auditions. Noelle Williams of Cleveland, 19, advanced to Hollywood, along with many other people not from Ohio. Another event that overtook Cleveland this summer was Spencer Tunick and 2,700 naked people. Tunick, a photographer who specializes in mass nude shots, photographed naked volunteers in various poses downtown June 26. Unlike the Idol auditions, this assembly took place at 6 a.m. in chilly Cleveland weather. Wonder what Simon Cowell would've said.

Games put international spotlight on Cleveland

For four days over the summer, Cleveland played host to the world. From July 26-Aug. 2, Cleveland welcomed the International Children's Games for their American debut. More than 3,000 athletes from more than 50 countries traveled to Ohio and stayed on college campuses in the city. They competed in 10 events including baseball, swimming, water polo and table tennis, and also acted as young ambassadors from their respective countries.

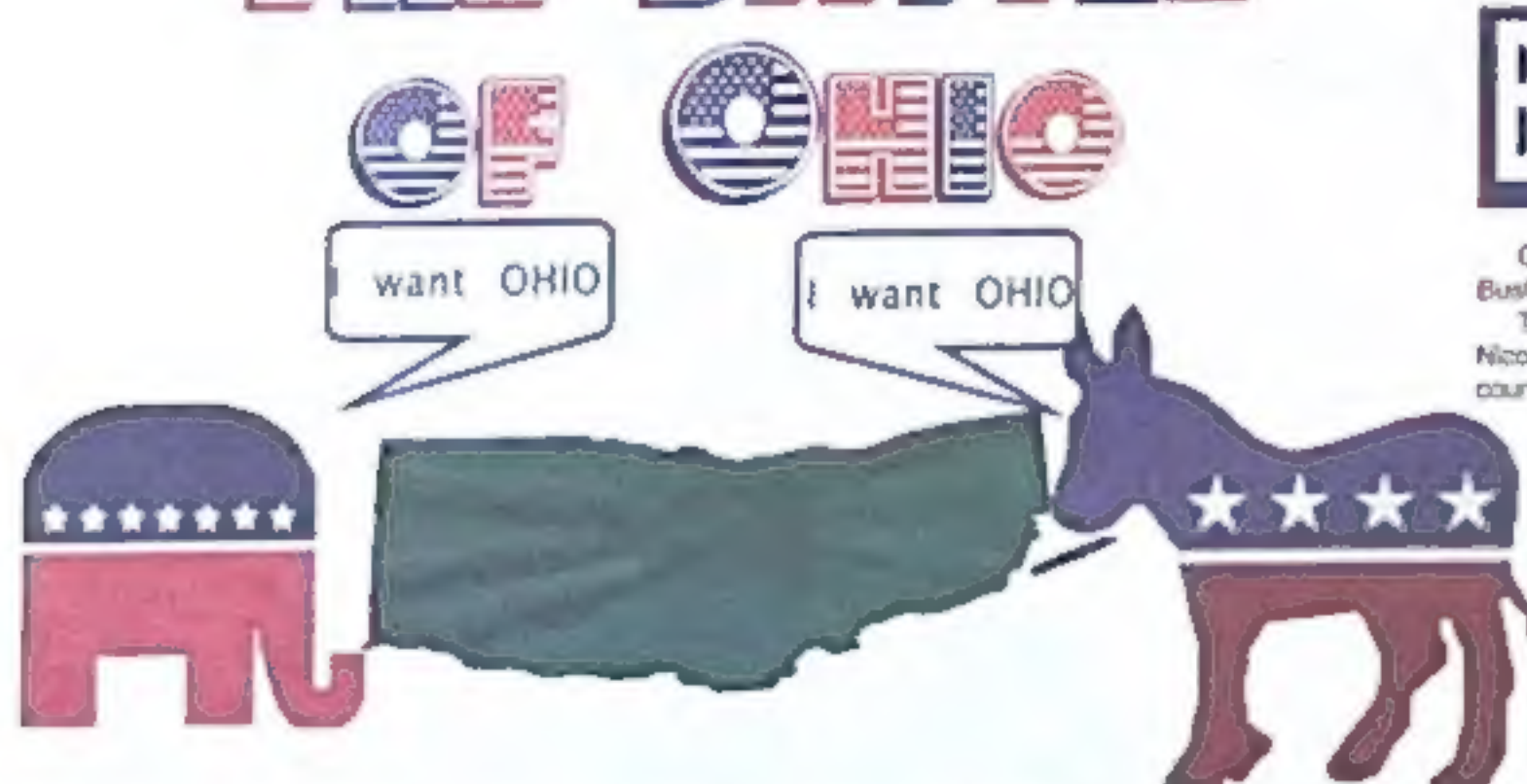
To accommodate cultural exchange, Cleveland transformed a downtown area into the International Festival Village. The outdoor village included booths with international food, a technology center, a retail hub, a club and an embassy row. Freshman River McWilliams played



VOLUNTEERS READY SIGNS for the delegations before the opening ceremonies of the International Children's Games.

baseball for Team Cleveland during the games. Aside from playing teams from cities from Little Rock to Graz, Austria, his team also played in the dome at Case Western Reserve University with international teams, including athletes from South Korea and Scotland. The games ran smoothly, thanks to help from thousands of volunteers, proving to be a great success for the city of Cleveland, which garnered worldwide attention and drew a profit. The only major hitch occurred after the closing ceremonies, when an Ethiopian runner went missing from her delegation on the day they were to return home. According to sources, Aden Alemu had wanted to seek asylum and ran away from her host to stay with an anonymous man. She was found and returned to her delegation on Aug. 11.

THE BATTLE OF OHIO



The state's votes are on popular demand

Attention Ohioans: Ignorance is not a valid excuse for not voting in the 2004 presidential election. With Ohio being one of the six key battleground states in the upcoming election, the state has been hit by a tsunami of presidential campaign efforts. Only two presidents have won the election without winning Ohio since 1900, and no Republican has ever won without Ohio. The state's 20 electoral votes are the latest political prize of the summer (they're even bigger than LiveStrong bracelets) and both campaigns admit that without Ohio, their chances of taking the White House are slim. Thus, the state has seen 24 visits from President George W. Bush since he took office and 20 visits from John Kerry, who he announced his candidacy not to mention visits from Dick Cheney and John Edwards or independent groups. Even if you haven't seen any of the candidates live, you've undoubtedly seen them on the small screen. Kerry has spent almost \$16 million on television ads in Ohio compared to Bush's \$12.4 million.

Ohio's poverty rate and high unemployment (both rose significantly in the last four years) seem to sit the state for Kerry, but Bush's popularity as a war-time leader and his frequent praise for small businesses have kept him in the hunt. The battle for Ohio was driven home in early August when a Kerry campaign headquarters opened on Shaker Square. Nicole Williams, press secretary for the Kerry Edwards campaign in Cuyahoga County, said the campaign is putting a certain amount of attention on the county. "We have five offices open in Cuyahoga County, that's a testament to how significant the county is in deciding the state."

In other summer election news...

- North Carolina Senator John Edwards was announced as Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry's running mate July 6. Edwards is expected to bring charisma and energy to the campaign.
- Despite enthusiastic crowds, the Democratic convention in Boston failed to give Kerry a significant bounce in the polls.
- Independent groups, most notably Swift Boat Veterans for Truth, produced TV ads claiming John Kerry has lied about his military service. Although the candidate distanced his campaign from the attacks, one of President Bush's John Edwards lawyers resigned after his ties to the Swift Boat group were revealed.
- Michael Moore's volatile documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11" was top billing at the Cannes Film Festival and became the first documentary to gross more than \$100 million at the box office. The film is an extensive attack on President Bush, was the summer's most controversial movie and was expected to slightly impact the election (just guess in whose favor).
- Though enthusiastic protesters threatened to overshadow the Republican National Convention in New York City, Republicans still managed to use the stage to state their cause and nominate George W. Bush for reelection.

Did you know about the International Children's Games?

YES • 65% NO • 35%

SUMMER '04 BY THE NUMBERS

103 total medals won by Americans at the 2004 Olympics
35 gold 39 silver 29 bronze
70 Days of summer vacation
436.5 million dollars taken in by "Shrek 2," the highest grossing film of summer 2004
06.21.04 date of National Nude Day
\$4 BILLION approximate total gross of the summer 2004 box office
1,000 pages in Bill Clinton's autobiography "My Life"
2,700 participants in Spencer Tunick's mass nude photograph in Cleveland



True life: I'm a Raiderette

Message T's raise eyebrows with suggestive sayings

Ahh, the Raiderettes. The band hates us, the football team loves us, little girls idolize us, but behind the high kicks and sparkly uniforms there's so much more than what meets the eye.

Of those hundreds of faces that populate the bleachers at half-time, very few know the blood, sweat and tears that are invested in being a Raiderette. We are the elite prima donnas. We are the cornerstones of the eight and a half minutes between second and third quarter.

It takes a lot of grit to be a Raiderette. It's a dedication of mind, body, soul and school spirit. Do not be fooled by the glitter eye shadow or the ribbons in our hair. We are hardcore.

Imagine, if you will, 24 high school girls together non-stop for 12 straight weeks. Things can get ugly. Imagine — the time spent with the Raiderette squad during football season is greater than the time spent at home. We've seen the harsher side of everyone, and when we, as girls so often do, rest on the familiar haunches of gossip, it gets fierce.

However, little does the world know how their dear Shaker Raiderettes are the target of the harshest injustices in high school. The lack of respect and recognition for what we do is appalling. It is the love for dance that makes us sacrifice those precious last two weeks of summer for Raiderette and band camp, and slave away in the multipurpose room every day first period during football season without getting tangible credit or a grade on our transcripts. Oh, and independent study is not even an option. Becoming a Raiderette is solely for dance; no other perks are allotted us.

Raiderette camp and band camp carve six-hour days out of summer vacation, and football games carve five-hour days out of the coveted weekend. But that's not all. Every day I wake up at 6 a.m. to arrive at school shortly before 7:30. Not only does my day begin much earlier than most everyone else, I go to the multipurpose room — unanimously deemed the hottest, dirtiest, smelliest, most disgusting room in the school — where we suffocate for the sake of dance until 8:55 a.m., when the bell rings for second period.

But that's not all. By the end of this football season, I will have sacrificed 550 hours of my life to the gods of marching band. Our job, which we take very seriously, is to perform an entertaining show during halftime and lead the crowd full of Shaker fans through a rally of school spirit and camaraderie.

No challenge is too great for our committed group of 24.

To conclude, I would like to clear up a few rumors about the Raiderettes. First off, no, we are not just a group of pampered, ditzzy, Rockette wannabes. Yes, we do maintain a scarily close resemblance to a high school sorority gone dance. And lastly, some say there is a rivalry between the Raiderettes and the cheerleaders, on that I have no comment.



LEAH HITCHENS
PULSE EDITOR

FROM SHIRTS PAGE 1
"Clothing that speaks to alcohol and drugs is inappropriate," Assistant Principal Frank Wessinger said.

Abercrombie's humor tees also target individual states. Messages such as "North Carolina: It's good to be on top" and "Iowa: We do amazing things with corn" are meant to poke fun at the states' often rural characters.

Last year, however, message T-shirts caused quite a stir when West Virginia Governor Bob Wise

thought one of Abercrombie's "humor tees" went beyond light fun. He demanded the message T-shirt stating "It's all relative in West Virginia" be taken off shelves because it implied that West Virginians violate the incest taboo. Nevertheless, the T-shirt remained in stores. Furthermore, Abercrombie's fall line includes another West Virginia based T-shirt. Governor Bob Wise finds the slogan "West Virginia, no lifeguards in the gene pool" cruel and has said he will fight back.

Sophomore Lesley Ray doesn't pay attention to the messages. "I wear [the message T-shirts] because I like the designs and colors," said

Ray. "I have a surfing one, but I don't surf."

Some messages are harmless, such as "The Most Beautiful Girl in the World," yet others may be considered provocative. T-shirts such as "My boyfriend's out of town" could easily be read as a sexual invitation.

"[Messages like that] are general and open to interpretation," Wessinger said.

"The shirts may give people a reputation," Ray said.

"Sometimes it's one they want, and sometimes it's one that's not good."

"Most people wear [the T-shirts] for fun, but try to buy shirts that represent them," Jones said.

While these shirts apparently do not violate school dress code, whether or not

some messages are appropriate for the school environment is in question. Currently the school code states that clothing must be appropriate, that it must be safe, and that clothing may not cause a significant distraction that takes away from the learning environment.

"Anything that is violent or that



- Top 5 T-shirt phrases**
1. If you love someone, set him free, if he doesn't come back, he's with me.
 2. South Hampton: only the blonde survive
 3. Bored of Education
 4. I have a fifth sense
 5. Objects in T-shirt are larger than they appear

can be offensive to women or a certain race is not allowed," said Assistant Principal Lisa Howell. "I've never seen anything close to it," Howell said about Shaker students.

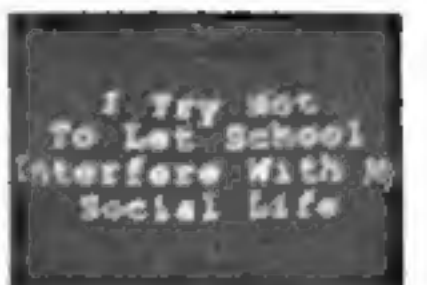
All students interviewed agreed that they had never been offended by a message on a T-shirt.

Wessinger said if a T-shirt were derogatory or offensive, he would take the student into a private setting and ask why he or she chose to wear the clothing. He would explain why it is inappropriate, advise the student's parents and require that the dress be corrected.

"We encourage students if they have a question about their dress to please ask and we will answer it," Wessinger said.

Many students retain the opinion that sending messages with T-shirts is OK.

"I think that if people like them and want to wear them then that's fine," Ray said.



Teachers read it, but they never say anything.

Keyiana Robinson
junior



People have come up to me and said 'That is so true'.

Tekoyia Brown
senior



It was cute and I liked the color.

Arelia Callieham
senior

Not so mellow about yellow, students embrace Livestrong

MIRIAM MOORE
PULSE EDITOR

If you're sporting a yellow Livestrong bracelet, you're not alone. Your classmates, teammates and maybe future president are riding along with pro cyclist Lance Armstrong in his effort to help young cancer patients.

In conjunction with Nike, The Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) has been selling yellow bracelets with the term "Livestrong" since May with a goal of raising \$5 million to provide education and support for youths with cancer.

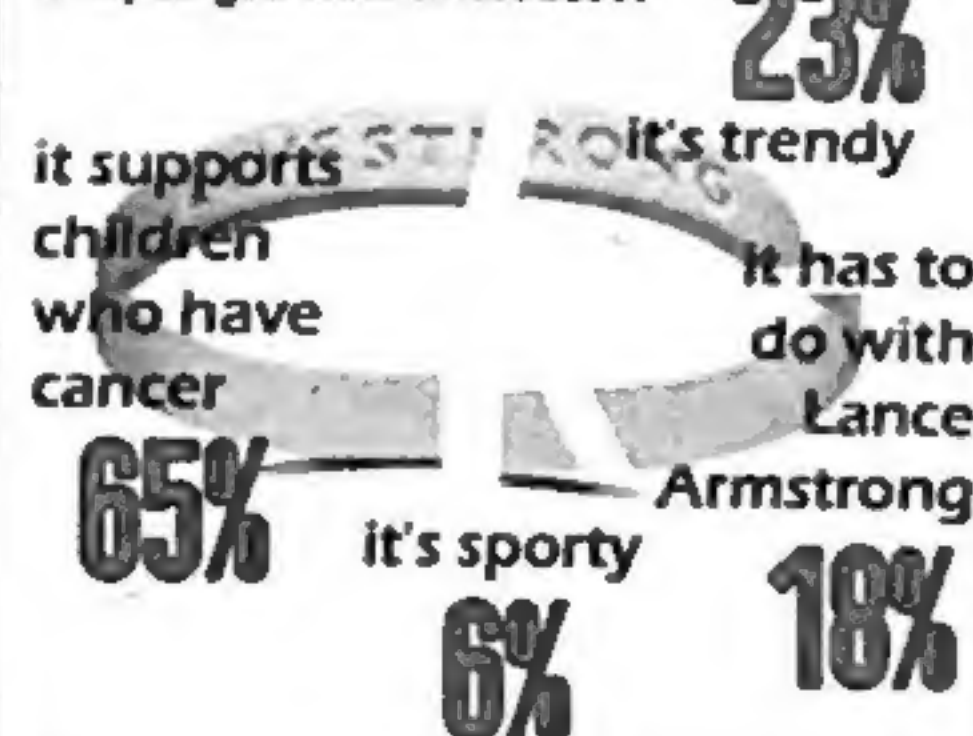
The fundraiser has become a fashion frenzy. Livestrong bracelets are not just a symbol of support anymore, but are a coveted fashion item. Bracelets are visible on all kinds of people at school. Security Guard Mark Seymore said he didn't see any last school year when they first came out in May, but has seen them around all the time since school began in August. "Everybody has them," Seymore said.

If you're not sporting your bracelet, you might be hawking your golden \$1 symbol on eBay for profit like many other Americans. A search on eBay for a Livestrong bracelet will give you more than 1,000 matches, most of them sold for more than \$1. Some are listed at more than \$10 a bracelet, and many come with a guarantee that the rubber bracelet will arrive within a few days. The bracelets were originally only sold for \$1 (plus tax) from www.laf.org and at athletic shoe stores. The website discourages the purchase of bracelets from auction sites such as eBay. The LAF even calls the sale

Do you own a Livestrong bracelet?



If so, do you wear it because?



of the bracelets at a higher price "unethical" because the extra proceeds are not going to LAF. The \$1 cost of the bracelets is used by LAF to provide information, advocate and develop programs for cancer patients.

This fashion craze hasn't hit just Shaker, but the world. Thirteen million bracelets have been sold worldwide. Stars such as Jay Leno sport the bracelets, and presidential candidate John Kerry wore one at the Democratic National Convention.

Many don't consider using the bracelets to make a fashion statement a bad thing.

"It becoming a fashion statement is cool," said sophomore Erin Cox, who wears the bracelet because it supports cancer patients. Classmate and fellow Livestrong wearer, Laura Stern, believes that it "unifies different groups of people."

The bracelets are part of a larger Nike campaign called "Wear Yellow" which sells other items such as T-shirts that say Livestrong. Yellow is significant because it is the color of the leader's jersey in the Tour de France, a three-week bicycle race through France where cyclists ride for 20 stages, a total of 3,390 kilometers.

Armstrong was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 1996. After two surgeries and four rounds of two different types of chemotherapy, he conquered cancer and won the Tour de France six consecutive times.

Bracelet owners believe they are part of a good cause. Senior Jeff Musser, whose uncle had cancer, said it was an excellent fund-raiser and that the fashion craze doesn't matter.

"If it raises money for cancer, who cares?" he said.

[the bracelets] becoming a fashion statement is a good thing

Erin Cox
sophomore

Institute classes suspended temporarily
Continuing Education classes at the Cleveland Institute of Art are suspended for this coming fall and spring. Freshman Greta Cowley took pottery at the Institute, but doesn't plan on finding another loca-



tion. "I don't think I'll be taking more classes," Cowley said. Ted Sherron, the Institute's vice president of marketing, said they are rethinking the program in order to "make a greater offering to the community." Classes will resume by the fall of 2005.

Don't let MTV program your music

As I sift through pages of the Scene magazine I recovered from underneath a coffee table at Kokopelli, I find comfort in turning immediately to the music section. I'm unsettled that so many people turn to MTV for musical inspiration. If for some reason MTV suddenly stopped broadcast-



LAUREN ALEXANDER
GUEST PITCH

ing, would music as they know it cease to exist? I take out my pen to list the bands I'd like to see, and somehow I end up with 18.

18! Seriously?! Could these 18 amazing bands really be coming to Cleveland?

This must be a mistake... they'll all cancel at the last minute due to illness, or some other common excuse artists use when they've exhausted themselves. I re-

GO-TO SHOWS

Coheed and Cambria (Heart-wrenching melodic emotional rock) 10/2 @ the Agora

Rilo Kiley (Touching female vocals layered on top of chiming guitars, sometimes up-tempo) 10/1 @ Grog Shop

The Faint (Electronic and dance-vibe) 10/8 @ Beachland Ballroom

Black Keys (Bluesy, mellow rockers from Akron) 10/10 @ Beachland Ballroom

Cave-In (Atmospheric rock with an edge) 10/12 @ Peabody's

Blood Brothers (Boisterous, unorganized chaotic rock) 10/21 @ the Agora

And you will know us by the trail of dead (Melodic garage/indie) 10/26 @ Grog Shop

Sondra Lerche (sorrowful vocals/telling guitars) 10/29 @ Grog Shop

Le Tigre (funky, feminist and electronic) 11/3 @ Grog Shop

Hot Water Music (up tempo, slightly folksy) 11/10 @ Grog Shop

I reread my list, confident I'd noted all the good ones, but some bands stand out. It's always hard to reduce the list, but

it's also kind of hard to see three bands in one day. So I chose the nine bands above. All but one have never debuted a video on MTV or VH1, so you might find yourself on unfamiliar ground. I've discovered that I appreciate music much more after doing research, going to shows, talking to real people, and browsing CD stores, rather than being spoon fed by MTV.

So get out! If you want to be inspired, go involve yourself in the music scene. Most of these shows are cheap! I can't tell you what to listen to, but I can tell you that trying something new doesn't hurt anybody. You never know — you might enjoy yourself.

Bush bashers and Kerry critics

• Celebrity's increasingly use the spotlight's power to promote their political persuasions

FROM CELEBS PAGE 1

notion of voting. Maroon 5 is one of the bands involved in the Rock the Vote campaign. During their Feb. 21, 2004 performance on "Saturday Night Live," members wore their Rock the Vote T-shirts while performing two hit songs. Actress Amber Tamblyn, from the TV show "Joan of Arcadia," wears a necklace that says, "Rock the Vote." Neither has openly supported Kerry or Bush.

However, other celebrities are more vocal about their political beliefs. Actor Ben Affleck is involved in both the Rock the Vote campaign and speaks out in favor of Kerry. Other celebrities endorsing Kerry include the band Guster and actress Natalie Portman. Guster has performed at some of Kerry's college appearances, while Portman wears a retro yellow T-shirt with Kerry's face surrounded by hearts.

Other bands that have performed at Kerry rallies include Blink-182 and Jon Bon Jovi. Additionally, celebrities have been seen at events for Kerry, including actors Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson and Julia Roberts.

Although in the past Republicans have denounced Democrats' use of celebrity endorsements by suggesting that Hollywood types are radically different from Joe Voter, Bush has also snagged some celebrity support. His famous fans include singers Jessica Simpson and Britney Spears, and actors Freddie Prinze Jr., Adam Sandler and Matt LeBlanc.

However, the Republicans' celebrity support has prompted political ribbing because these celebrities have at times been labeled as ditz. The website for Western Standard (a magazine that dubs itself as "Canada's only independent, pro-Western, conservative, pro-American, pro-liberty, pro-beef news magazine") states that Jessica Simpson and Freddie Prinze Jr. could not collaboratively spell GOP.

Because the 2004 presidential vote seems to have inspired a lot of celebrities to share their opinions, people can only try to predict what effect celebrity endorsements will have on the outcome.

Senior Candice Crews said that celebrity endorsements will affect voter registration; however, she doesn't think celebrities can influence young adults' choices at the ballot.

"It's really the [voter's] decision who they're going to vote for," she said.

Senior Adam Margolius will not let celebrity opinions change his own political views.

"I can make my own opinions," he said.

Crews doesn't let celebrity endorsements change her views either.

"We might not have the same views [on certain issues]," she said.

Record company Fat Wreck Chords has produced a compilation of pop/punk songs that point out Bush's shortcomings. "Rock Against Bush" is popular both among people who like punk music and people who don't like Bush. "Rock Against Bush" has been out since April and in August, Fat Wreck Chords released a second volume.

As politically incorrect and absurd as the CD is, it still does seriously talk about issues such as the war on terrorism. Although very few are appropriate for a family newspaper, this excerpt from "No W" by Ministry will give you an idea of the songs' typical tone.

"Ask me why you're feeling screwed/And I'll give you the answer..." You can fill in the rest with your imagination.

"It's good. It has a good message," junior Mollie Silver said.

But celebrities may be pushing the limits of their fame. A number of celebrities that have never before been in the public eye about politics are now speaking up. They already tell the public how to dress, how to look, what's "in," and now they're putting in their two cents about voting. Is this going too far?

"It's a good thing. It shows they do care about other things [besides themselves]," senior Arizma Bryant said.

Crews and senior Adam Margolius had similar opinions.

"It's great. It's really encouraging the kids to get out and vote," she said.

"It's another form of advertising," said Margolius, who will vote in the Nov. 2 election.

Celebrities are used to instant gratification; they market a look, a CD, a film or a show and watch their efforts become the next big thing. However, in the 2000 presidential election, only 32.3 percent of voters ages 18-24 cast ballots compared to 69.9 percent of voters aged 65-74. Given young voters' history of non-participation and candidates' unwillingness to take them seriously, celebrities such as P. Diddy may find that their audience doesn't think the election is a life and death matter, although it may be for these young voters.

The "Kerrys"



The "Neutrals"



The "Bushes"



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- In Cleveland: Oct. 2, \$52-77.
- Bruce Springsteen & the East Street Band, R.E.M., and Bright Eyes will perform.
- Tour will do about 40 shows in nine states that are crucial to the election.
- Other artists include The Dixie Chicks, Dave Matthews Band, Pearl Jam and James Taylor.
- Proceeds benefit the work of America Coming Together and is sponsored by MoveOn.org

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SPORTS

DON'T MISS IT

Catch the Raiders at these upcoming home games.

Men's soccer v. University School 4:30	Sept. 30
Volleyball v. Mentor 4:15	Oct. 7
Field hockey v. Hathaway Brown 4:30	Oct. 14

8
09.29.04

Don't wait to start winning

When did the slogan "play like champions today" become "play like champions tomorrow"? To all underclassmen athletes, act now: your title run begins today.

Why wait until the fourth and final season of your senior year to make a run at that state title? Athletes dream of stacking their trophies among the countless awards in the display case. They visualize their picture on the wall of fame and accomplishing their athletic goals... starting next year?

Vince Lombardi, the legendary coach of the Green Bay Packers, once said, "Winning isn't a sometime thing; it's an all-the-time thing." Winning requires hard training; training should be an all-the-time thing as well. Some athletes in our school refuse to accomplish goals now because they know that they still have two or three seasons left to reach their peak performance. Some athletes in our school put off training like it's their homework. Whether you're a freshman or a senior, someone is always working harder than you. The competition should always make you work harder to develop your skills — age shouldn't be a factor.

When you're a middle school athlete, you're a big fish in a small pond. Yet, when you're in high school, you're just another fish in the sea. It's one of the struggles of freshman year; it shouldn't affect your role on the team. Every player has his job, whether filling up water bottles or putting points up on the scoreboard.

Being on a freshman or JV team is no excuse to take the season off. Non-varsity athletes may be unmotivated; they may think their egos have been offended by being assigned to the practice squad. What could be more motivating than playing against the athletes who will be your future varsity competition?

If you're an underclassman, place yourself in the shoes of a senior athlete who has only one more season to play in his or her high school career. You wouldn't want a lethargic, lackadaisical sophomore teammate taking a day off from practice because he or she knows that future seasons await. You want a hungry, dedicated rising athlete who will do anything for the team.

Become familiar with the weight room and don't be afraid to use it. Watching athletes bench-press twice your body weight can be intimidating to a freshman. Every one of those athletes started somewhere to become better players. When do you want to begin?

Stop analyzing what a great athlete should be. Become one. The question is how good do you want to be? Yes, there is a small price to pay when you're a younger athlete. Riding the bench, though, is not an excuse to quit being a better athlete.



DAVID O'CONNELL
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite pressure Schork tends to stay sharp

BY MARGUERITE MOORE
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Ryan Schork has been defending nets against enemy assaults for seven years.

The senior has racked up success as soccer goalie with or without praise. Besides being on the varsity men's soccer team since sophomore year, Schork has made all districts, been named MVP, and led as team captain for two years.

"He's an incredible goalie," senior forward Spirit Nlandu said. "He deserves more credit than he gets."

Schork first became interested in soccer after his older brothers, now 19 and 21 started playing the sport. He also learned goalkeeping skills from oldest brother Andrew, who played goalie with the Raiders.

He has been Shaker's starting goalie since former goalie Luke Antal ('03) graduated.

He believes that confidence and intensity are two of the most important traits a goalie can have.

"You have to be confident that you can stop shots," he said. "You can't hesitate. Every decision of a goalie is crucial. If you mess up, they'll score. You have to be ready to play [and] be really aggressive about defending the goal. If they beat you, it's a goal."



Schork



Dan Snider/THE SHAKERITE

SENIOR GOALIE
Ryan Schork leaps to block a shot against Cleveland Heights at home Sept. 8. Despite his efforts, the Raiders lost to the Tigers 2-0. Senior Colin Duffy said, "It doesn't matter if we're playing Heights or a bad team; [Schork is] always hyped. Even if we're playing a team 10 times better than us, he's still like, 'We can do this.'"

Schork said he feels no pressure to live up to the success of Antal, who now plays lacrosse at Dartmouth College.

While Schork has been a positive force on the team, teammates agree that his leadership is also apparent off the field.

"He's an inspirational leader in goal," head coach Geoffrey Gainford said. "He leads by example in both performance and work ethic."

Though team spirit runs high, the team has recently struggled to maintain a winning streak.

Despite Schork's success as a goalie, the team is currently 3-7. However, Schork is still optimistic about the season.

"The toughest part was at the beginning of the schedule," he said, noting Cleveland Heights and University School as Shaker's toughest rivals.

"We're coming along, but something's missing with the chemistry of our team."

The faltering record puts extra pressure on Schork to prevent goals.

"I do sometimes feel like there's a lot of pressure on me, because we've had some trouble scoring. I need to play well to keep

us in the game," he said.

Nevertheless, teammates said that Schork keeps them motivated throughout games.

"It doesn't matter if we're playing Heights or a bad team; he's always hyped. Even if we're playing a team 10 times better than us, he's still like 'We can do this,'" senior Colin Duffy said.

Schork describes himself as an "intense player."

"I just try to do everything I can to help us win. I love the feeling of going out there and shutting the other team down. If they don't score, they can't win."

One of the greatest victories in his mind was over Benedictine last year.

"[It was] a 3-1 home win over Benedictine. Everyone played up to their potential."

"It's the best game I've ever seen us play. And everyone was having fun on the field."

Though still undecided about his future soccer plans, Schork already has his goals set for this season.

"I want to try to win the LELs and go as far in the playoffs as we can," he said.



David O'Connell/THE SHAKERITE

A RENDITION OF the Shaker alma mater marks the Raider 31-6 victory over Warrensville. The newly adopted habit of singing after victories follows the tradition of teams such as Ohio State.

Shaker rejoices harmoniously

FROM SINGING PAGE 1

Marching Band Director Adrian Pocaro said the post-game performance establishes camaraderie and that the band got a kick out of listening to the team singing. The Raiders even practiced the alma mater with the marching band the last day of band camp.

Senior Raiderette Julia Sivertson enjoyed the team's performance after they defeated Gulf Shores Academy Aug. 28. "It was pretty funny to hear... they were good-heartedly making fun of themselves because they couldn't sing, but they were also celebrating because they'd won the game."

Field commander Kristen Walling said Sedmak's goal of increasing school spirit will be fulfilled within the band and football team.

"I think this is [the team's] way of... showing that they have pride in [the school]," said Walling, a junior.

Sedmak said as long as he's here, the tradition will continue, an idea that ties well with the alma mater's lyrics: "Fortified by our traditions/To Shaker we belong."

Raiders teach field hockey and share kilts on Fox 8

BY MEAGAN STEINER
SPORTS EDITOR

A bekilted Fox 8 morning news reporter made a successful goal and a few too many kilt jokes while learning to play field hockey with the Raiders.

The team was featured on "Kicking it With Kenny" Aug. 31 from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

After brainstorming fall sports he had not yet featured, Kenny Crumpton consulted Fox 8 sports reporter Dan Coughlin for a good area high school team and was directed to Shaker.

Head Field Hockey Coach Marilyn Brandt first informed her team that they needed to be at the Woodbury field at 6:30 a.m. and, after some protests, added that they would be on Fox.

"People were really pumped," senior center halfback and captain Clare Malone said. "Cleveland doesn't pay

that much attention to field hockey. It was good publicity for the sport and for our school."

Brandt said that the squad did nothing special to prepare. A 4-2 victory over Cleveland Heights Aug. 30 helped motivate the Raiders.

Before meeting the team, Crumpton said he didn't know what a field hockey stick looked like. During the segment, the team taught him dribbling, passing and shooting drills and held a half-field scrimmage.

Between attempts at shooting and handling the ball, Crumpton discussed rules and the success of area teams in state competition.

Malone said that with a 5-3 record, the team would do well in the post-season.

Sophomore midfielder Suzanne Arian said the team was portrayed as skillful, spirited and hard working.

"It also showed when he was trying to do the hitting and dribbling that it was a little harder than you might think," she said.

Crumpton admitted that the sport was more difficult than he had expected, especially because athletes remain in a squatting position for much of the time. Thus, he recommended field hockey players to guys looking for girls with good legs.

It also showed that... [field hockey] was a little harder than you might think.

Suzanne Arian
sophomore midfielder